Government of Saskatchewan

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All stated cattle prices are based on the weekly Canfax Market Outlook and Summary.
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Cattle Market Update

For the Week Ending August 14, 2015

All prices are quoted in Canadian dollars per hundredweight ($/cwt) unless otherwise stated.

Saskatchewan Feeder Steer and Feeder Heifer Prices ($/cwt)

Feeder Steers		300-400	400-500	500-600	600-700	700-800	800-900	900+ lb.
Aug. 14/2015	Average	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	$309.50	N.A.	N.A.	$237.50
July 3-31	Average	N.A.	$321.40	$320.00	$296.64	$266.55	$250.48	$236.67
week/month	Change	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	$12.86	N.A.	N.A.	$0.83
Feeder Heifers		**300-400**	**400-500**	**500-600**	**600-700**	**700-800**	**800+ lb.**	
Aug. 14/2015	Average	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A	N.A.	$240.00	
July 3-31	Average	N.A.	$297.33	$290.67	$270.76	$251.65	$232.87	
week/month	Change	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	$7.13	

Source: CanFax (July estimates are averages calculated from weeks July 3 to July 31)

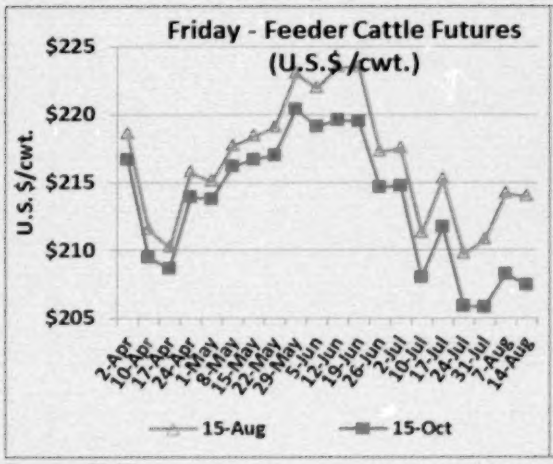
Note: Prices are determined from Saskatchewan auction marts' reports of sale results from Thursday of the previous week to Thursday of the current week. N.A. means not available due to lack of sufficient data.

Canfax reported that a total of 1,733 head of cattle were sold in Saskatchewan this week, down from 1,850 head marketed the previous week, and down from 3,395 head marketed the same week a year ago. With low feeder cattle volumes for sale in Saskatchewan only a few feeder weight categories had prices reported.

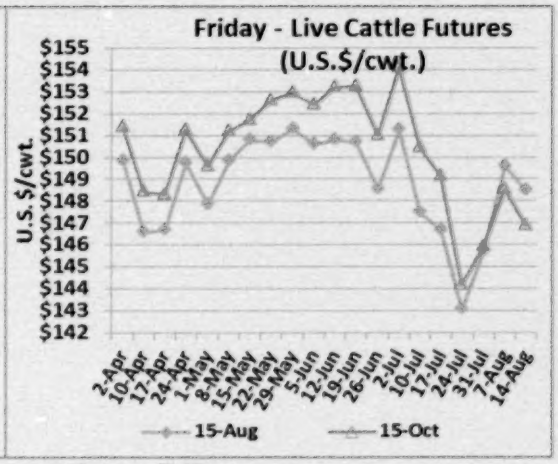
Saskatchewan feeder steer prices only had prices reported for the 600-700 lb. weight category and 900+ lb. weight category. Prices for the limited categories available remained steady to higher over the week compared to July. The 600-700 lb. weight category managed to increase almost $13 per cwt compared to July's estimated average. Due to low volumes of feeder steers last week (August 7) there were no prices reported the previous week for comparison.

Feeder heifer prices also had limited categories reported over the week due to low volumes. The only weight category reported over the week was the 800+ lb. weight category which increased by about $7 per cwt from the July average. There were no prices reported for feeder heifers the previous week (August 7) due to low cattle volumes.

Feeder cattle futures prices were mixed over the week with no significant changes. The August to October 2015 contracts declined between US$0.225 and US$1.050 per cwt. The August contract declined US$0.225 per cwt to settle Friday at US$213.900 per cwt, while the September contract declined US$1.050 per cwt to settle Friday at US$209.525 per cwt.



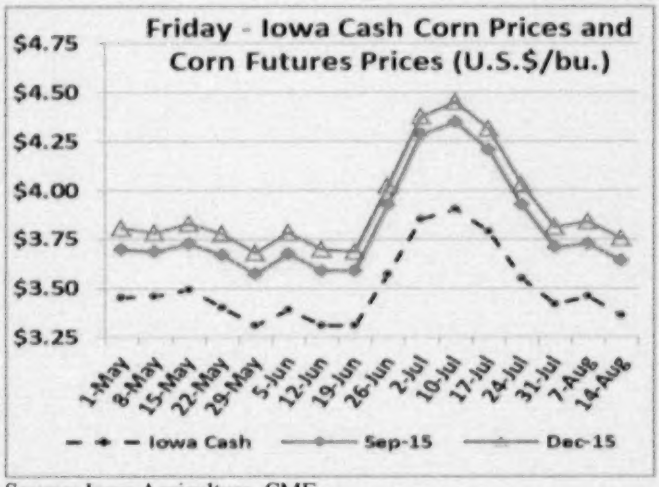
Source: CME



Source: CME

Live cattle futures prices were also mixed over the week but ended lower, week-over week. The nearby August contract declined US$1.250 per cwt to settle Friday at US$148.45 per cwt, while the October contract declined US$1.675 per cwt to settle Friday at US$146.850 per cwt.

Iowa cash corn prices and the nearby corn futures moved lower on better than expected USDA August corn production estimates. Cash corn prices have been overall trending lower since mid-July after moving noticeably higher in late June and early July, from earlier crop concerns. The Iowa cash price on Friday was US$3.36 per bushel, down ten cents from US$3.46 per bushel the previous Friday. The September corn futures contract declined almost nine cents to settle Friday at US$3.64 per bushel, while the December futures contract declined just over eight cents to settle Friday at $3.75½ per bushel.



Source: Iowa Agriculture, CME

Fed and Non-fed Cattle

	August 14, 2015	August 7, 2015	August 15, 2014	Change over Week (August)
Steers (Alberta)				
Live	$184.90	n/a	$164.34	n/a
Rail	$306.00-308.50	n/a	$268.00-278.75	n/a
Cows (Alberta)				
D1,2 Live	$141.21	$139.94	$126.50	+$1.27
D3 Live	$128.75	$130.15	$111.90	-$1.40
Rail	$268-273	$267-272	$235-240	+$1.00

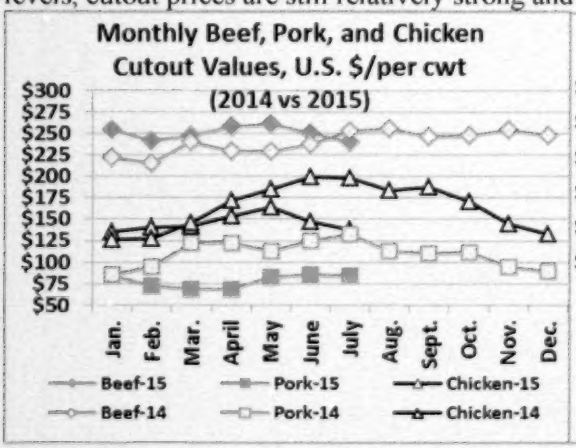
Source: Canfax. (n/a = not available, n/c = no change)

Prices for liveweight, non-fed cattle in Alberta were mixed last week. For the week D1,2 slaughter cows increased $1.27 per cwt to average $141.21 per cwt, while the price of D3 slaughter cows decreased $1.40 per cwt to average $128.75 per cwt. D1,2 slaughter cow prices were almost $15 per cwt higher than the same week a year ago.

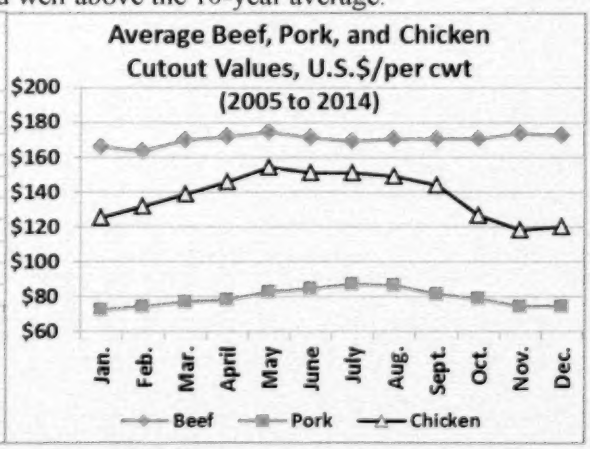
Fed cattle prices in Western Canada for Alberta fed steers were reported to average $184.90 per cwt for the week. There were no prices reported for Alberta fed steers the previous week. Alberta fed steer prices are currently about $20 per cwt higher than the same week a year ago.

The live (FOB feedlot) weighted average 5-area (Texas/Oklahoma/New Mexico, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Iowa/Minnesota) weekly fed steer price in the U.S. was reported at US$150.62 per cwt, down US$0.51 per cwt from US$151.13 per cwt the previous week, and down 2.8 per cent from US$154.92 per cwt the same week a year ago. The dressed (delivered basis) price for U.S. steers delivered to plants in the 5-area was reported at US$238.44 per cwt, down US$0.84 per cwt from US$237.60 per cwt the previous week, and down 2.1 per cent from US$243.65 per cwt the same week a year ago.

Choice beef cutout prices (600-900 lb.) averaged US$242.66 per cwt, up US$7.82 per cwt or 3.3 per cent from US$234.84 per cwt the previous week, but down 5.7 per cent from US$257.35 per cwt the same week a year ago. While beef cutout values are currently below year-ago record levels, cutout prices are still relatively strong and well above the 10-year average.



Source: LMIC



Source: LMIC

United States Beef Exports

United States exported 96,716 metric tons of beef plus beef variety meats in June 2015, up 9.3 per cent from 88,466 metric tons in May 2015, but down 9.3 per cent from 106,609 metric tons in June 2014. By dollar amount, U.S. beef exports in June 2015 were US$578.9 million, up 4.0 per cent from US$556.7 million in May 2015, but down 8.3 per cent from US$631.7 million in June 2014. U.S. exports by volume in June were higher to South Korea, but lower to Japan, Mexico, Hong Kong and Canada; year-over-year. (Source: U.S. Meat Export Federation)

USDA World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE)

On August 12 the USDA released the August World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE). United States August corn production estimates were increased by 2.0 bushels per acre to 168.8 bushels per acre from the July estimates; increasing total production estimates to 13.686 billion bushels. USDA estimates were higher than the average trade estimates of 164.7 bushels per acre and total estimated production of 13.332 billion bushels. U.S. projected 2015/16 ending stocks was increased by just over three million metric tons even with higher production and exports from July. U.S. average farm corn prices were slightly reduced with average prices estimated to average between US$3.35 and US$3.95 per bushel for the 2015/16 corn crop.

The USDA WASDE report estimated that United States Red Meat and Poultry production for 2015 will be 94.971 billion lb., a 0.3 per cent decrease from the July estimates, but a 3.0 per cent increase from 2014. U.S. beef production was revised 0.3 per cent lower from July. United States meat production for 2015 is projected to increase for pork (+7.6%), broilers (+4.4%), but decrease for beef (-2.0%) and turkeys (-2.1%), from 2014 production.

USDA August World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates

		Million Pounds				Total Red Meat
	Quarter	Beef	Pork	Broiler	Turkey	& Poultry
2013	**Annual**	**25,720**	**23,187**	**37,830**	**5,806**	**93,333**
2014	**Annual**	**24,252**	**22,843**	**38,550**	**5,756**	**92,171**
2015	July Proj.	23,824	24,581	40,492	5,564	95,216
2015	**Aug. Proj.**	**23,759**	**24,581**	**40,245**	**5,632**	**94,971**
% Chg.	July - Aug.15	-0.27%	0.00%	-0.61%	1.22%	**-0.26%**
% Chg.	**2014-2015**	**-2.03%**	**7.61%**	**4.40%**	**-2.15%**	**3.04%**
2016	**Aug. Proj.**	**24,835**	**24,705**	**41,375**	**6,010**	**97,698**

Source: USDA August WASDE Report, August 12, 2015

Beef production for the week ending August 15, 2015 was 444.4 million lb., up 1.0 per cent from 440.1 million lb. the previous week, but down 5.8 per cent from 471.6 million lb. the same week a year ago. Cattle slaughtered over the week totaled 540,000 head, up 0.9 per cent from 535,000 head the previous week, but down 7.1 per cent from 581,000 head the same week a year ago.

Friday Price Information

Product		This Week (August 14, 2015)	Week of: (August 7, 2015)	Week of: (August 15, 2014)
Canadian Dollar (closing rate US$)		.7638	.7614	.9184
U.S. Cash Cattle				
Thurs. Feeder Cattle (FC) Index (US$ per cwt)		216.71	217.13	222.21
Seven-day Weighted Average FC Index Wt. (lb.)		761	772	757
Live Fed 5-area Steer Price (US$ per cwt)		150.62	151.13	154.92
Feed Grains				
Barley	Lethbridge ($/tonne)	216.00	220.00	175.00
	($ per bu.)	4.70	4.79	3.81
Corn	Iowa State Average (CDN$/tonne)*	173.18	178.90	150.03
	(US$ per bu.)	3.36	3.46	3.50
	Omaha, NE (CDN$/tonne)*	182.98	186.14	151.75
	(US$ per bu.)	3.55	3.60	3.54
Futures				
	Sept. Corn (US$ per bu.)	3.64	3.72¾	3.65½
	Dec. Corn (US$ per bu.)	3.75½	3.83¾	3.77
	August Live Cattle (US$ per cwt)	148.450	149.575	150.600
	October Live Cattle (US$ per cwt)	146.850	148.525	147.750
	August Feeder Cattle (US$ per cwt)	213.900	214.125	217.225
	October Feeder Cattle (US$ per cwt)	207.425	208.275	214.300

Sources: Bank of Canada, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship,
Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME), ICE Futures Canada and USDA Livestock & Grain Market News
* conversion to CDN$ is based on Friday's CDN$ closing rate (This week it is Thursday's CDN$)

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